

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the heading before line 1 on page 1 as follows:

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to a laminated panel element with a heating layer ~~that has the features presented in the preamble of claim 1.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~Such heater~~Heater elements applied to glass or other nonconducting substrates can be used as radiative heater units if the installed heating power is adequate for this purpose. These heater elements can be installed on or in building walls or be integrated into these buildings as a replacement for the usual (central) heating units. For this purpose, they do not need to be implemented in the form of windows but can equally well be in the form of mirrors, decorative surfaces, etc. Alternatively, it is also possible for such panel elements to be used as a general means to produce heating from the surfaces of technical appliances, for example domestic appliances, where their limited installation height and smooth, easily-cleaned surfaces offer big advantages.

Please insert the heading between lines 2 and 3 on page 1 as follows:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the heading between lines 4 and 5 on page 1 as follows:

## DISCUSSION OF THE BACKGROUND

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~The document~~ DE-A1 198 60 870 describes a panel heater element of this type, with a glass substrate and its whole surface coated. In order to ensure safe and reliable isolation from the outside of the electrically powered coating, a region forming a frame around the periphery of the coating is isolated by a separation line and is thus electrically neutralized. Such an arrangement also protects the coating from corrosion that penetrates in from the outer edges, but that can only penetrate as far as the separation line.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The prior patent application 102 41 728.8 of [[the]] Applicant describes a connecting device for a laminated panel element that comprises a first rigid pane having a heating layer together with a second rigid pane joined over its whole surface with the first by adhesion. The connection device is inserted into a feed hole formed in one of the rigid panes. It comprises contacts that allow a direct contact with the heating layer to be established. For this purpose, the latter has at least two electrodes that are disposed in the region of said cut-out. A plurality of current paths, electrically connected in parallel and formed within the coating, can run between these electrodes.

Please insert the heading before line 1 on page 4 as follows:

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to the invention, this problem is solved with the features of ~~claim 1~~  
claimed. The features of the dependent ~~dependant~~ claims present advantageous  
developments from this subject.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The configuration according to the invention, however, also allows the two coatings to be provided with completely different properties. On the one hand, they may be made of different materials. Their resistances can be adjusted over wide ranges, for example, by the choice of the specific conductivity and/or of the internal structure of the layer configuration, such that different heating powers are obtained even for the same applied supply voltage.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

During the manufacture of panel heater elements not to be used as windows, the antireflection coating of the conducting layer itself, for example made of silver or another conducting metal, could be eliminated which, on the one hand, would simplify the power connections (dielectric antireflection layers are usually nonconducting or are poor conductors), and, on the other hand, would allow decorative effects to be obtained on the surface. The precise determination of suitable materials for the configuration of heating layers is however left to the discretion of those skilled in the art who have the task of calibrating the desired heating power.

Please insert the heading between lines 11 and 12 on page 8 as follows:

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The insert 10 forms the mechanical base of a connection housing 12. Two vertical dashed lines indicate a threaded link between the two parts allowing them to be separated. A support block 13 is fitted into the center hole of the insert 10 through the connection housing 12. This forms the base of two pairs 14, 14; 15, 15 of spring contacts that are pushed into contact with the electrodes 6. The inside pair 14 of spring contacts is disposed at the lower end of a short axial appendage from the support block 13. The latter has a slightly smaller diameter or periphery than the support block 13 itself. The spring contacts are placed in direct electrical conduction on the electrodes 6 of the coating 5 of the (lower) pane 2. The power supply or heating voltage is brought to the coating of the rigid pane 2 by these contacts 14.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The outside pair of spring contacts 15 ~~extends~~ extend from the support block 13 at the shoulder formed at the transition with its appendage. The spring contacts 15 are not in direct contact with the surface electrodes 6 of the heating layer 5 of the (upper) rigid pane 4, since the latter must terminate on either side of the feed hole 9. However, the insert 10 has two connecting bridges 16 for this purpose. On one side, they penetrate into the center hole of the insert 10. They stop on either side of the appendage of the support block 13 and form the

elements that are directly complementary to the spring contacts 15. On the other side, they pass through the wall of the insert 10 and rest on either side against the (upper) surface of the shoulder 11 of the insert 10, namely the surface facing the coating 5 of the pane 4.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Here also, the rigid pane 2 is crossed by a feed hole 21 that is oriented substantially axially with respect to the feed hole 9 of the rigid pane 4. The second adhesive layer 3 has a corresponding cut-out in which the electrodes 6 of the lower coating terminate. An axial extension 22 of the support block 13 is inserted into the feed hole 21 with the connection housing and the support block. Its diameter or, as the case may be, its periphery is smaller than that of the support block 13. There is a given amount of radial play between it and the wall of the feed hole 21, in order to compensate for any possible differences between the centers of the drilled holes 9 and 21 which could result from the manufacture of the laminated pane. It extends in the longitudinal direction up to just before the surface of the third pane 20 situated in the laminate. Here also, contacts between the pairs 14 and 15 of spring contacts are excluded by an axial offset and a radial offset.